

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SCA-01 VO-03 PPT-02 M-03 A-01

H-02 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

DODE-00 RSR-01 /109 W

----- 129353

R 221036 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 327

INFO AMEMBASSY AKKARA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 14093

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CPAS, LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM

REF STATE 096406

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS DE WARREN TOLD EMBOFF, MAY 21, THAT GOF ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR "WAY OUT" OF LIBYAN PASSPORT IMPASSE. GOF, HE SAID, NOT PREPARED TO ACCEDE TO LIBYAN SUGGESTION FOR ARABIC STAMP WITH OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT SEAL. HOWEVER, AS COUNTER- PROPOSAL, GOF CONSIDERING BILINGUAL STAMP IN PASSPORT. FRENCH WOULD FILL OUT PASSPORT DETAILS IN FRENCH AND LIBYAN CONSULATES AND EMBASSIES WOULD FILL OUT ARABIC PORTIONS. GOF, HOWEVER, DID NOT PROPOSE TO PUT SEAL OVER STAMP NOR AGREE TO LIBYAN PROPOSAL THAT STAMP BE ONLY  
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IN ARABIC.

2. EMBOFF EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM THAT FRENCH PROPOSAL WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO LIBYANS IN LONG RUN. HE NOTED THAT AS MATTER OF PRINCIPAL USG WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ISSUE PASSPORTS IN ARABIC OR TO PLACE OFFICIAL ARABIC STAMP IN PASSPORT OR ON SEPARATE SHEET.

3. WHEN ASKED WHETHER SEPTEMBER 1 DATE WOULD HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANCE FOR PASSPORT PROBLEM, DE WARREN COMMENTED THAT FRENCH EMBASSY TRIPOLI HAD CONCLUDED IT WOULD NOT. NO MATTER WHAT FORM LIBYAN/ EGYPTIAN UNION TOOK, IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT KHADHAFI WOULD RELINQUISH CONTROL OVER ENTRY OF FOREIGNERS INTO LIBYAN PORTION OF FEDERATION. THIS, HE SAIDN GOF REGARDED ANY ATTEMPT TO DELAY SOLUTION UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1 AS ARTIFICIAL AND UNREAL UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. COMMENT: IT IS EVIDENT FROM DE WARREN' S REMARKS THAT FRENCH INDEED ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR COMPROMISE ACCEPTABLE TO LIBYANS. DE WARREN COMMENTED THAT SUCH A COMPROMISE WAS ESSENTIAL IF FRANCE WERE TO MAINTAIN ITS " VERY IMPORTANT" INTERESTES IN LIBYA . HE NOTED IN CONTRAST UK HAD NOTHING TO LOSE FROM TAKING TOUGH POSITION. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT USG WITH SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS IN LIBYA HAD INTERESTS COMPARABLE TO FRANCE AND STILL FELT THE QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE INVOLVED WAS SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT TO JUSTIFY TOUGH POSITION WITH GOL. IRWIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**TAGS:** CPAS, LY  
**To:** AF  
AKKARA  
BONN  
BRUSSELS  
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TRIPOLI

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